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PROCEEDINGS

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GENERAL NOTES.

The bat genus Pteronotus renamed Dermonotus.

In 1815, Rafinesque, in his 'Analyse de la Nature' (p. 54), substituted *Pteronotus* in place of *Pteropus*, apparently simply because he did not like the latter name. Of course there was no justification for such a procedure and *Pteronotus* is a pure synonym of *Pteropus*. Nevertheless, the name was given and consequently its use for another genus precluded. However, Gray gave the same name in 1838 to a genus of Phyllostomoid bats, not knowing of its previous use by Rafinesque. As no other has been given to exactly the same type, a new one must be substituted and *Dermonotus* is appropriate, referring to the extension of the skin of the wings and interfemoral membrane upon the back.

Those mammalogists who rank *Pteronotus* and *Chilonycteris* as sections of one comprehensive genus for which the latter name has been used will be more reconciled to the change when they consider that a less serious one will be entailed. It has been generally overlooked that *Pteronotus* was published a year earlier than *Chilonycteris* (1838 instead of 1839) and consequently that name would have to be used instead of *Chilonycteris*, generally employed for the genus. An examination of the types of the two genera has led me to believe that the two groups should be regarded as generically distinct, if current views as to generic differentiation are to be adopted.—*Theodore Gill.*

An addition to the avifauna of the United States.

During the summers of 1892 and 1893, when accompanying the party then engaged in surveying and re-marking the boundary line between Mexico and the United States, Mr. Frank X. Holzner and I found the

Mexican Cliff Swallow, *Petrochelidon melanogaster* (Swainson), in abundance in the states of Chihuahua and Sonora, Mexico. It also crossed into Arizona, along the San Bernardino and Santa Cruz rivers, breeding on both sides of the international boundary line. Five or six specimens including adults of both sexes and young recently from the nest, were collected in Arizona, and are now in the United States National Museum.—*Edgar A. Mearns.*

A new Cypripedium.

Cypripedium veganum, n. sp.—Allied to *C. pubescens* and *C. parviflorum*. Differs from both, but especially from *parviflorum*, by the oblong stigma, rounded and almost truncate at the end. Agrees with *pubescens* in the large flowers, but the lip is very bright yellow as in *parviflorum*. Leaves and stems glabrous, with only a few scattered gland-hairs. Flowers very slightly fragrant.

Upper sepals as long as the lip; lower much shorter; petals narrow, longer than the lip, usually twisted. Lip much inflated, laterally compressed, pubescent at base within, speckled with dull red within, faintly speckled on outside above towards the apex; sterile stamen triangular, spotted like the lip. Leaves lanceolate. Stems a foot to a foot-and-a-half high.

Measurements in millimeters:—Upper sepals, length 35–45; lower, length 32–40; breadth, (two united) 15–19; petals, length 45–57; greatest breadth, 7; lip, length, 33–41; breadth, 14–19; sterile stamen, length, 14, breadth, 6.

Leaves with about 6 prominent and 6 weaker veins; average of the larger leaves, length, 135, breadth, 40.

Hab.—Sapello Canyon, Las Vegas Range, N. M., about 8000 ft. (Canadian Zone); in full flower in June. Many specimens examined. The type will be placed in U. S. National Museum.—*T. D. A. Cockerell and P. and M. Barker.*

A new name for Mus obscurus Miller.

The name *Mus obscurus* which I recently applied to a small rat from Tioman Island, off the east coast of the Malay Peninsula (Proc. Washington Acad. Sci., II, p. 213, August 20, 1900) is preoccupied by *Mus obscurus* Waterhouse (Proc. Zool. Soc. London, V, p. 19, 1837). It may therefore be replaced by *Mus pullus.*—*Gerrit S. Miller, Jr.*